United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1616
5 April 1994

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council extends UNAMIR mandate until 29 July; urges Government of Rwanda and Rwandese Patriotic Front to resolve their differences without delay, with view to implementing Arusha Peace Agreement.

+ Fifth Committee approves drafts which would authorize Secretary-General to commit $110 million to various peace-keeping operations, and $1.1 million for office of Special Coordinator in occupied Palestinian territories.

+ Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, says package of confidence-building measures for Cyprus and recent revised ideas offer real benefits to both Cypriot parties.

+ Security Council Committee on sanctions against former Yugoslavia approves border crossing point between Albania and Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for freight vehicles.

+ Secretary-General appoints Benny Widyono as Special Representative for Cambodia for initial period of six months.

* * *

The Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) until 29 July. The Council said it would review the situation there, including the role of the United Nations, within six weeks, if the transitional institutions provided for in the Arusha Peace Agreement had not been established and insufficient progress had been made for implementation of phase II of the Secretary-General's 1993 plan. It urged the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) to resolve their differences without delay, with a view to implementing the Agreement. The Council took that action by unanimously adopting resolution 909 (1994).

The Council also welcomed the fact that the cease-fire in Rwanda had been respected despite the difficulties in implementing the Arusha Agreement, and

(more)

For information media--not an official record

commended UNAMIR for its essential contribution in that respect. However, it recalled that support for the Mission, including the provision of an extra 45 civilian police monitors as described in the Secretary-General's recent report, would depend on full and prompt implementation of the Agreement.

* * *

The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) yesterday approved draft resolutions by which the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to commit some $110 million to finance several peace-keeping operations. The Secretary-General could commit $9 million gross per month for the United Nations Assistance Mission to Rwanda (UNAMIR) from 5 April to 31 October; $24 million for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) from 1 April to 31 May; $5.4 million for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the same period; $600,000 for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG), also for that period; and $16.4 million for the United Nations peace-keeping support account for the period 1 January to 30 June.

The Committee also approved drafts that would have the Assembly appropriate $144,000 for the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) from 23 March to 30 June, and $3.6 million for the special account of the United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) from 22 June to 21 December. By another draft, the Secretary-General could commit more than $1.14 million for posts in the office of the United Nations Special Coordinator in occupied Palestinian territories from 1 April to 31 December 1995, on the understanding that the Coordinator would be at the level of Assistant Secretary-General.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has reiterated that the package of confidence-building measures presented to the two parties in Cyprus, combined with revised ideas put forward last month, offers real benefits to both. The package includes the reopening of the fenced area of Varosha and of Nicosia International Airport.

In a report on his mission of good offices in Cyprus dated 4 April, the Secretary-General said the Turkish Cypriot side had objected to the revised ideas, stating that changes from the wording of the package favoured the Greek Cypriot side. The Turkish Cypriot side had objected in particular to proposals on security of access between the United Nations-controlled buffer zone and Varosha, traffic arrangements at Nicosia Airport, the implementation schedule for the package, and the collection of customs duties by the United Nations. The Greek Cypriot side had said that it did not like many of the changes, but that it would accept the proposals if the Turkish Cypriot side would do likewise. The Secretary-General went on to say that he and his representatives would continue high-level contacts with the parties in order to secure an agreement.

* * *

(more)

The Security Council Committee on sanctions against the former Yugoslavia has approved a border crossing point for freight vehicles travelling between Albania and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Vehicles will be allowed to cross the border at Hani i Hotit if in accordance with relevant Council resolutions and the Committee's Revised Consolidated Guidelines.

The Committee has already approved road and rail border crossing points between the Federal Republic and Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Romania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

* * *

Following a request by the Royal Government of Cambodia, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Benny Widyono as his Special Representative for that country. The appointment, which became effective on 28 March, is for an initial period of six months. Mr. Widyono previously served as Chief of the Regional Commissions New York Office.

* *** *